Referring to the Literal Translation of International Application PCT/EP2004/001412

In the Claims:

1. (Original) Method for the milling of freeform surfaces on workpieces on a milling apparatus or a milling machine, especially for the 5-axis milling, whereby a workpiece is milled by a tool of the milling machine in such a manner that a desired freeform surface arises, and whereby the tool is moved relative to the workpiece for the milling along at least one tool path defined via support points, characterized in that

a) the support points of the or each tool path are defined either in workpiece coordinates or in machine coordinates,

b) for each tool path at least one spline is produced in connection with the support points,

c) the or each spline is output to a control arrangement of the milling machine, whereby the control arrangement controls the motion of the tool along the or each tool path on the basis of the or each corresponding spline.

2. (Original) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that, when the support points are defined in workpiece coordinates, then six coordinates are specified for each support point.

3. (Original) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that, when the support points are defined in machine coordinates, then five coordinates are specified for each support point.

Claims **4 to 7** (Canceled).

8. (Original) Apparatus for the milling of freeform surfaces on workpieces, especially 5-axis milling apparatus, whereby a tool mills a workpiece in such a manner that a desired freeform surface arises, with a programming arrangement (21) for the programming of at least one tool path or miller path through support points, and with at least one control arrangement (28) for the control of the motion of the tool along the or each tool path relative to the workpiece, characterized in that the support points of the or each tool path are programmable in workpiece coordinates or in machine coordinates in the programming arrangement (21), that means (25) are allocated to the programming arrangement (21) in order to produce at least one spline for each tool path in connection with the support points, and that the means (25) provide the or each spline to the or each control arrangement (28), whereby the or each control arrangement (28) controls the motion of the tool along the or each tool path on the basis of the or each corresponding spline.

9. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that the programming arrangement (21) is embodied as a CAD/CAM system for the programming of the or each tool path, whereby the CAD/CAM system produces at least one APT file (22), which is transferable by at least one subsequent connected post-processor (26) into at least one control file (27) that is executable by the or each control arrangement (28).

Claim **10** (Canceled).

[REMARKS FOLLOW ON NEXT PAGE]